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PARITY INC. Presents Annual "Top Ten" African American Males Luncheon – 2019



2019 Top Ten African American Males

By: Brenda Cochran
Contributing Writer

The Parity Inc. special occasion for this year was held on Thursday, February 14, 2019 at Sinclair Community College in The David H. Ponitz Center. Most Dayton citizens look forward to the event each year where a celebration takes place with mentors, role models and philanthropists being recognized for the work they perform for our youth and the Dayton community.

Known as "Top Ten"

African American Male luncheon, those honored are selected by an evaluation process that involves members of the community and also members of a Parity committee.

Each year, a colorful program booklet is passed for all attendees that includes individual pictures of each gentleman honored for the year at the top of the booklet. Not only is the book attractive, but contains numerous ads for each honoree, information about each gentleman, a list of Advertisers, Sponsors and a listing of

the honorees dating back to 1994 when the first Parity "Top Ten" celebration was held.

For twenty-five years, Parity, Inc. major focus has been toward providing focus on the issues and problems that exist in the Black community as well as improving the economic and social conditions and the educational climate of African Americans.

This special event also provides hope and exposure to the youth in the Dayton community and the leaders of the future.

The Month of March is the national mentoring month and provides special focus on the fact that Mentoring does Matter. The Luncheon Chairman, Mr. Brian Sanders' words of Welcome and historical information was placed on the introductory page of the program booklet followed by Greetings from Parity, Inc. Co-chairs Patricia Meadows and Emmett Orr and thorough information of the Mentoring Program by Marsha Greer, Parity Education Director.

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Dayton Public Schools' Plan Will Lead to Change for the Better

By Dr. Elizabeth Lolli,
Superintendent, Dayton Public Schools

Dayton Public Schools is always striving to improve itself so that students will be better equipped for the future.

Often, changes must be made for an organization to improve.

To help the district change for the better, the Board of Education, Treasurer and Superintendent met at retreats that began in September to set goals for the upcoming school year. Those goals include: academic improvement, organizational excel-

lence, fiscal responsibility and partnership and leadership development.

When it comes to academic improvement, preparing students for college or careers is of the utmost importance. Students must know opportunities are available after high school and be ready for them. To help ensure our students are prepared, the Board identified the need for enhanced instructional strategies in all classrooms, along with the integration of technology and resources for diverse populations.

Academic success also largely depends on students simply being in class. At this time, about



Dayton Public School Board Members: (L-R) Mohamed Al-Hamdani, Dr. William E. Harris, Jr., John S. McManus, Elizabeth J. Lolli, Ph.D., Karen Wick-Gagnet, Jocelyn Spencer-Rhynard.

30 percent of students are chronically absent, meaning they have missed more than 10 days of school this year. To help improve at-

tendance, the Board has made supporting students and families in their physical, social, emotional and

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Harris And Booker Presidential Races Stir Pride, Excitement And High Hopes



Senator Cory Booker and Senator Kamala Harris

Dr. Shiela Harmon Martin said she recently got two very pleasant surprises when Sens.

Kamala Harris (D-Calif.) and Cory Booker (D-N.J.) announced that they are joining the race to become America's next president.

Harris, a former San Francisco prosecutor and California attorney general, set off a serious buzz after her announcement and African Americans have been digging into her law enforcement record and perusing her policy platforms and prior statements in order to discover what type of president she might be.

Dr. Martin, division chair and professor of Political Science at the University of the District of Columbia, said she hopes and expects both Black

senators to do well.

"I hope one of them emerges as the top contender and, at a minimum, in second place," Martin said. "African Americans have been the most loyal constituency to the Democratic Party. I don't feel that because we had one African American president we shouldn't have another one for the next 20 years...Hopefully the Democratic pool will look like America."

Because both candidates have been watched by political observers for years,

Welcome to Black History Month



America Is Losing the Real Meaning of Black History Month

Since its inception, Black History Month has never been just a celebration of black America's achievements and stories — it's part of a deliberate political strategy to be recognized as equal citizens. Yet lost amid today's facile depictions of Harriet Tubman's Underground Railroad or George Washington Carver's peanuts is black America's claim as co-authors of U.S. history, a petition the nation has never accepted.

This was the aim of Carter G. Woodson, a black historian and originator of Negro History Week in 1926. He believed that appreciating a people's history was a prerequisite to equality. He wrote of the commemoration, "If a race has no history, if it has no worthwhile tradition, it becomes a negligible factor in the thought of the world." That is, no amount of legislation can grant you equality if a nation doesn't value you.

This is the story of black America — underappreciated and perpetually experiencing trickle-down citizenship wherein progress only reaches us if the nation's cup runneth over. There is no disputing that tremendous racial progress has occurred over the course of the nation's history. And actions by the federal government are often cited as milestones of this evolution: the Emancipation Proclamation, constitutional amendments, Reconstruction Era edicts, Supreme Court cases and the Great Society legislation. Undoubtedly, if not for each of these, we

never would have elected a black President or have more black members in Congress today than ever before. But we must remember that Black History Month exists to deliver what federal policy has not — the eradication of systemic racism. Yes, policy is important, but the state of black America today proves it is wholly insufficient on this score. We have Brown v. Board, and yet the racial segregation of public schools remains the norm. We have the Fair Housing Act, and racial segregation in housing has barely changed in nearly four decades. We have the Fifteenth Amendment and a Supreme Court-weakened Voting Rights Act, and yet state laws still implement measures that disproportionately affect black voters. Black unemployment remains at twice the rate of white Americans. Black median wealth is nearly ten times less than white wealth. Black Americans are incarcerated at a rate five times that of their white countrymen. And black health continues to be worse on nearly every front — heart disease, asthma, infant mortality, diabetes — and the racial gap cancer deaths is widening.

These are not just problems of U.S. policy but of the American character. If we deemed this disparate black experience in America to be unacceptable, the country would have undertaken a massive federal program to address it specifically. But it has

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their formal announcements may also impact the strength of the electorate, Martin says. She hopes their candidacies will lead to increased voter registrations and voter turnout in Black communities.

The announcements of Harris and Booker are already attracting the attention of people from distant corners of the country. *Continued on Page 3*

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Celebrating Black History Month



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Around DAYTON

Miami Valley Weather

Friday

Cloudy
High 46
Low 38



Saturday

Rain
High 57
Low 48



Sunday

Mostly Cloudy
High 52
Low 28



5 day Forecast

Monday

Partly Cloudy
High 41
Low 32



Tuesday

Rain
High 48
Low 29



Dayton Section NCNW Embraced 2018 with Power, Celebrates 2019 with Purpose



Teddy Bear delivery - Montgomery County Children's Services with County Commissioners and Children's Service Director.

By: Carol Prewitt

We are proud to say Mary McLeod Bethune's legacy lives on through the Dayton Section as we continue to help women and youth realize their full potential and help create a just society that enhances the quality of life for all people. We remain committed to the mission of educating, leading, developing and advocating for women of African descent as they support their families and communities.

The later part of 2018 continued to be a year of Powerful Sisterhood for the Dayton Section. We held our Annual Membership Tea October 21, 2018 at the Presidential Banquet Center. The theme was, "The Shoulders We Stand On: Our Role Models Then and Now." Membership Tea chairperson, 1st Vice President, Rosalee Bradley and



President Carol Prewitt presenting Judge Mia Spells with a certificate and flowers - NCNW Black History speaker.

her committee organized a phenomenal program that illuminated the love and nurturing of women from the local community and beyond. The speaker was NCNW's own magnificent Judge Adele M. Riley who expounded on the gifts we have and how we should use them to serve one another. The ladies were graced with a liturgical dance presentation by Anointed Dance Ministry. The program also included modeling of Women's Hat Trends in honor of our past National President, Dr. Dorothy Height, by People of Diversity, commentated by Vivian Jackson. NCNW youth served as hostesses. Words of wisdom and encouragement sealed the bond of sisterhood for the ladies as they embraced the love and grace of one another.

November 9, 2018 eight Section members attended the 58th National Convention in Washington, DC. NCNW's 6th National Chair and President, Ingrid Saunders Jones delivered the keynote address at the President's Luncheon. She exclaimed that NCNW is "Alive, Well, Solvent and ready for the Future". Highlights of the convention included: A Town Hall meeting with political strategists and NCNW members Donna Brazile, Yolanda Caraway, Leah Daughtry and Minyon Moore, who had recently released For Colored

Girls Who Considered Politics, a book detailing their experiences as close allies on the national political stage over several decades; First ever Millennial Entrepreneurs Pitch Competition; and the Bethune Height Luncheon. A grand highlight of the convention was the installation of Johnetta B. Cole, Ph.D as Chair and 7th President of NCNW. Dr. Cole pledged to insure the organization will be involved in important social justice conversations. Dr. Cole is a renowned educator, leader and former president of the nation's only two HBCU's for women - Spelman College in Atlanta, GA and Bennett College in Greensboro, NC. Dr. Cole has led several organizations, including the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of African Art.

December 1, 2018, we held a Sisterhood Fashion Show at Sinclair Community College. The theme was, "Celebrating Sisterhood". Chairperson, Sherri Walton and her committee ensured everyone enjoyed a delicious lunch and a fabulous fashion show by Crysta Baker, owner of Crysta's Exclusives. Her designs were breathtaking. The most gracious and stylish Alison Brown was the Mistress of Ceremony. Edraya Caldwell, a member of Anointed Dance Ministry performed with great

(Continued on Page 9)

Dayton Unit NAACP Host Town Hall "Internal, External and Community Legal Redress Opportunities and Avenues for Citizens"

The Dayton Unit of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) will host a Town Hall titled, "Internal, External and Community Legal Redress Opportunities and Avenues for Citizens." The event will be held on Monday, February 25, 2019 at 6:30 pm at the Dayton Boys Preparatory Academy located at 1923 W. Third St. The distinguished guest panelists will be Rev. Dr. David I. Fox, Retired Chief of Police and Chair of the Dayton Unit NAACP

Criminal Justice Committee; Ellis Jacobs, Esq., Senior Attorney for Advocates for Basic Legal Equality (ABLE); and Michael L. Wright, Esq., Litigation Attorney for Wright & Schulte LLC. The moderator will be Gary J. Leppla, Esq., Chair of the Dayton Unit NAACP Legal Redress Committee.

Founded in 1915, the Dayton Unit of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is the city's oldest and largest nonpartisan civil rights or-

ganization. Its members throughout the Dayton Region and Montgomery County are the premier advocates for civil rights in their communities. Their core goals are to Inform, Educate and Empower the Citizenry as they pursue justice and equality for all Americans.

For more information on the Dayton Unit NAACP, please call (937) 222-2172 or visit www.naacpdayton.org

Trotwood Police To Host First Citizens Police Academy Since 2014

By Emily Kronenberger, Staff Writer

The city of Trotwood will seek to bridge the gap between residents and police officers with the Citizens Police Academy, being offered for the first time in years.

Trotwood residents can take part in the nine-week long program to get a look behind the scenes at the Trotwood Police Department. This will be the first time the police department has hosted the program since 2014. The Citizens Police Academy will give residents a chance to see how the department operates on a day-to-day basis.

"Ultimately, it comes down to building trust with our community," said Capt. Dan Heath. Participants will get hands-on experience in tasks officers do. Officers will show residents police techniques, firearms safety, specialized training and problem-solving skills that officers use to resolve conflicts they see in the line of duty, according to a release.

TRENDING: Trotwood seeks to lure more development to East Main Street Police Academy students will get a chance to participate in mock scenarios like



traffic stops, evidence collection and building searches. Detectives, evidence technicians and fire arms instructors will be among those teaching the program. The department advises this does not qualify a citizen as a police officer, but they hope it sparks an interest in a participant to become one or to have an understanding how a police officer conducts their job.

"The Citizens Police academy will help bridge the gap between the police department and the community," said Sgt. Bill Moore. "Not only will the community be able to have a better understanding of what we as police officers do on a daily basis, it will also provide feedback from the community to the police department for a better understanding of what is expected." TRENDING: Trotwood's new \$5.1 million library nearing construction "This

is an opportunity for community members to get up close and personal with the inner workings of police work." Residents must fill out an application for a basic background check to ensure the participant has not been charged with any serious crimes. The program will be on Wednesdays from March 27 through May 18 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Trotwood Police Training Center on Olive Road. There will be two Saturdays the program will be held for the mock scenarios. Residents are asked to email Moore at bmoore@trotwood.org or call 937-837-0766 to be added to the list of participants. For more information or questions about the CPA program, contact Moore or Heath at 937-854-7200.

Ohio News Connection A statewide news service for Ohio \$15 Minimum Wage: Ohio Lawmakers Try Again

COLUMBUS, Ohio - Ohio's minimum wage workers are earning 25 cents more per hour this year than last, but some lawmakers and policy analysts contend \$8.55 an hour still isn't enough. A 2006 ballot measure set Ohio's minimum hourly wage at \$6.85 and indexed

it to inflation. But Michael Shields, a researcher with Policy Matters Ohio, says that doesn't cover the cost of living for many families. His group's <http://www.policymattersohio.org/pressroom/2019/02/12/15-minimum-wage-would-help-2-million-ohioans>

target="parent">latest research shows wage growth and economic growth are out of sync. (contd.) Podcast and entire story available: <https://www.newsservice.org/index.php>

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National

Harris And Booker Presidential Races Stir Pride, Excitement And High Hopes... Continued from Page 1

verse walks of life.

Rev. Dr. Derrick Harkins, national director of Faith Outreach for the Democratic National Committee who served as a faith issue advisor to the Obama campaign, says both Harris and Booker will soar because of what will prove to be energetic campaigns and their donors and support will be competitive. But Harris' first move may have given her an advantage. And the number and the excitement of the people who showed up for her Oakland announcement was reminiscent of the Obama enthusiasm.

"The energy and focus around her announcement was impressive. I haven't seen that energy and momentum in other people," Harkins said. "This was important to her and those waiting in the wings."

However, political observers agree that no contender – at least not in the near future – will rise to the euphoria of the candidacy of America's first Black president, Barack Obama.

"2008 was lightning in a bottle," Rev. Harkins noted. "The energy, fervor and enthusiasm won't probably be replicated in our lifetime... We're in a different place. For them, it will probably be more retail', pushing people out there. They have to mobilize; organize to make sure people will come out."

There is always the down side for both candidates. Because Harris has such a long record, even as a first-term senator, she is already being buffeted by scrutiny and criticism, said political analyst and media commentator, Dr. Avis Jones-DeWeever.

"Her challenge is that she has a long and controversial record, I will admit. But she's being held to an extremely high level of scrutiny," Jones-DeWeever says.

Jones-DeWeever also points out that Harris has ties to the 'system' that raises a lot of people's suspicions.

"I think she needs to lay out her own criminal justice agenda, have a specific speech on this, spell out the issues and detail what she'll do going forward," said Jones-DeWeever, who is president and CEO of the consulting firm, Incite Unlimited, LLC. "We have to be careful not to be over-critical and not hold her to a different standard. A lot of people aren't asking this of other candidates."

But, for African Americans in many quarters, Harris has struck the right chord in the way she entered the race with the announcement on Martin Luther King Jr. Day; her first news conference held at her alma mater, Howard University; and

her ability to draw a large crowd to her formal announcement at Frank Ogawa Plaza in front of City Hall in her hometown of Oakland, CA. She also got kudos for her remarks in front of her Alpha Kappa Alpha sorors in South Carolina.

But in walks the popular orator and politician Sen. Corey Booker.

Kansas City resident and political observer Emily Brown says Booker's entrance into the presidential fray surprised her.

"I followed Sen. Booker as mayor. He's an excellent senator, very strong," she said. "I was shocked that he's running but having multiple candidates of color is a very positive thing. I've never seen a more diverse group running. We saw that in the midterms. I am concerned but think he's a strong candidate."

Gloria Murry-Ford said she recently met Booker at a fundraiser for former Georgia State Rep. Stacey Adams and left impressed.

"I took a selfie with him. He's a very nice, very personable, very smart man," she said. "I know he's a Rhodes Scholar but I don't know a lot about him and I don't know how he's doing. They are two powerful Black people. I watched Sen. Harris. I saw the town hall and liked what I saw. I think she's smart; she's good, knows what questions to ask and has gotten her message together. She had a great rollout."

Murry-Ford, a former CNN reporter and now a communications expert specializing in crisis management and strategic communications in Washington, DC, said she was less than impressed with the junior New Jersey senator's announcement.

"Booker's rollout was light," she said. "Standing at a chain link fence? Optics is important and his optics weren't as great. She had a great roll out. It was magnificent. She claimed her blackness. It's not bad to be Black anymore. With him it was a different atmosphere. He's got to nail down his message, tighten up stuff."

Political Scientist Dr. Harmon Martin said she's confident that Booker and Harris will campaign well, even as they deal with the rough and tumble nature of politics and the often coarse and abrasive criticism and attacks that come with it.

"Hey, cheers to Sen. Harris and Sen. Booker," she said. "I'm a little biased because she's my soror. She's an African American woman and attended an HBCU. I really like Booker too. He's an outstanding choice, a good mayor, committed to Black people. I despise when people place a litmus test on who's Black enough. Allow both candidates to do well, and may the best candidate win."

Trump Looks To Send Food Aid To Haiti As Violence Leads To Humanitarian Crisis

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration is working on a plan to provide a humanitarian aid package to Haiti, where water, medicine and food are becoming increasingly scarce after nine days of consecutive protests, the Miami Herald and McClatchy Washington Bureau have learned.

"While we cannot comment on internal planning processes, the U.S. government remains committed to the people of Haiti and to addressing the food security needs of the most affected people," a U.S. Agency for International Development spokesperson said. "USAID-delivered emergency food assistance is intended to help alleviate severe food insecurity among the most vulnerable segments of the population."

The decisions on when, where, and the type of emergency food assistance that will be provided will be based on local needs and context, including assessments of local market conditions to ensure the appropriate interventions are put in place, the spokesperson added.

On Thursday the U.S. State Department and Canadian government announced increased travel warnings for the country, advising citizens to avoid travel to Haiti due to the civil unrest that broke out on Feb. 7, leaving diplomats and Haitians holed up at home.

Since Feb. 7, Haiti has



Demonstrators march through the streets of Port-au-Prince, Haiti, on Thursday, Feb. 7, 2019, demanding the resignation of Haitian President Jovenel Moise.

been engulfed in violent demonstrations by Haitians angry over the skyrocketing cost of living, double-digit inflation and a government that appears incapable of addressing its concerns. Amid the protests, staged by the opposition, there have been increased calls for the resignation of President Jovenel Moise, who in his first address to the nation Thursday since the protests started made it clear he had no intention of stepping down.

"We have had a lot of transition governments that have produced nothing but catastrophe and disorder, that did not serve the country well, a lot of blood that poured in vain; the state became weaker, the lives of people degraded daily. You want to do the same thing every

time?" Moise said. "I

want you to understand that you and I, our destinies are tied to each other. Open your eyes. I have the determination and courage to continue to work to change your living conditions."

The speech did not offer any solutions for tackling the economic concerns, including the government's \$89.6 million budget deficit, or address the corruption scandal around the Venezuela PetroCaribe discount oil program, which has also brought some people out into the streets. Soon after Moise's speech, both the U.S. State Department and Canada announced the travel warnings, with the State Department also saying it had ordered the evacuation of all non-emergency personnel and their families from the country.

The aid to Haiti from the

United States reflects a cooling of tensions. Trump administration officials had been frustrated with Haiti's absence on the Venezuela issue over the last year, but now that Haiti has adopted the position of the United States in recognizing acting president Juan Guaido over leader Nicolas Maduro, relations have improved, with Haiti's foreign minister making several requests for help in recent weeks.

In a statement, the U.S. Embassy in Port-au-Prince said Friday that it welcomes the president's call for national dialogue. It noted that the protests had resulted in the deaths of innocent civilians, increased violence and suffering for the Haitian

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Editorial & Comments

OPINION: 'They're Just Prisoners Right, So Why Should We Care?'

Activists Tamika D. Mallory and Mysonne Linen share an exclusive message with theGrio on why criminal justice and prisoner reform are humanitarian issues that should be on everyone's minds.

By Tamika D. Mallory and Mysonne Linen

Let us begin by saying, we support incarcerated individuals, full stop.

On February 1st, we learned from Shaun King about a human rights crisis at the Metropolitan Detention Center in Brooklyn, New York, where for the past eight days, 1,600 people, many of them sick, have been without heat or electricity in below-freezing temperatures.

We immediately called for a solidarity action, under the banner of #UntilThereIsHeat, and a number of organizations including Justice League NYC, G.M.A.C.C., Life Camp Inc., Kalief Browder Foundation, Bay Ridge for Social Justice, and Rise and Resist, answered the call. We also thank those concerned individuals such as Jamila T. Davis, who is an influencer and formerly incarcerated individual and Love & Hip Hop New York personality, Yandy Smith Harris as well as family members who were committed to staying outside of the facility until services are restored inside the Metropolitan Detention Center.

Before we go any further, we want to be

crystal clear about one thing: As a person who spent seven years of his life in prison, and as an activist who has worked with formerly incarcerated people for over 20 years throughout her career, we unequivocally support the rights of incarcerated people. If this is an issue to you, you can stop reading, unfolding, and be done with us right now – or you can keep reading and maybe we can figure out a way to work together to solve problems.

Here are some things you should know.

For the past week, the men and women being held at the Metropolitan Detention Center have had limited or zero access to heat, electricity, and hot water. Their meal schedules have been irregular. Some have icy water leaking from the ceiling onto their beds. They've had no telephone access and no visitation, and are cut off from their loved ones and lawyers; and the most egregious of all, there has been a lack of medical and mental health treatment.

One of the things that struck us the hardest was the sound of hundreds of people inside the jail banging on the windows and walls—a sound that brings to mind historical accounts of ships full of African people bound for slavery, banging on the walls of the ships transporting them.

Many of these people are detainees who have not been convicted. Many are waiting for their cases to go to federal district court. Some are awaiting sentences this week, and have been unable to

contact their lawyers. Regardless of their different stories, we must be unequivocal in saying that even if they have been convicted, no one should be tortured in this manner – because this is torture.

The Eighth Amendment to the United States Constitution prohibits cruel and unusual punishment. No human being should be subject to the extrajudicial punishment being inflicted on the men and women at the Metropolitan Detention Center, where Warden Herman Quay has reportedly refused to provide or accept blankets and thermal wear, as temperatures dropped to the teens last week.

We know the criminal justice system has always been unfair, unequal, and unjust for people of color. So don't come and tell us that these people are criminals, because this system has had disparate impacts on people of color. Some were swept up in dragnets of the War on Drugs. Some of just need help, yet instead, their suffering is compounded by conditions which are gross violations of human rights – as codified in the UN Standard Minimum Rules for Treatment of Prisoners. Because of the nature of the criminal justice system and how it operates, we as human beings reading this have to be careful not to condemn the folks who are still in the process of fighting for their freedom.

This is our moral obligation.

We believe that in social justice movements, the most marginalized and impacted people have to be at the center of our



Prisoners call out to protesters and family members gathered outside the Metropolitan Detention Center, a federal prison where prisoners have been without heat, hot water, electricity and proper sanitation due to an electrical failure since earlier in the week, Sunday, Feb. 3, 2019, in New York. (AP Photo/Kathy Willens)

work – or else, what are we getting justice for? In the 1960 lunch counter sit-ins, a young man named John Lewis prepared fellow freedom fighters saying, "If not now, then when? If not us, then who?"

Right now, we ask with the highest level of urgency – as people with untreated medical conditions bang on walls and windows for help – if not the men and women at the Metropolitan Detention Center, then who?

We watched Warden Quay go home on Saturday night and asked ourselves, how does the captain abandon his ship while it sinks? We stayed all night long, so why wouldn't the warden stay all night as well to ensure the safety of more than 1,600 people in his care? The common theme we've heard from the many elected officials who've been inside the facility is there seems to be a lack of urgency from administrators. Warden Quay hastily leaving on Saturday night seemed to confirm this.

Later that evening, a truckload of blankets and emergency supplies from the NYC Mayor Bill De Blasio's office arrived, but we learned through our direct communications with inmates that these were never distributed and people were left freezing cold.

The Metropolitan Detention Center is under federal jurisdiction, so we call on the Trump Administration to immediately stop the human rights violations at the facility. The lights and electricity may have returned, but there are many issues that remain. What we witnessed this weekend is an acute outbreak of a chronic problem.

In 2016, a federal judge said she refuses to send women to this facility because of what she called "unconscionable" "third world" conditions, which have been documented in numerous reports and lawsuits.

Immediately after the GOP suffered a shattering defeat in the midterm elections, Donald Trump signed into law a criminal

justice reform bill, the "First Step Act." If the Trump administration is serious about criminal justice reform, we expect to see efforts to address not just the issues within the Metropolitan Detention Center, but all other federal detention facilities, because these types of problems are unfortunately common across facilities, as we know from many reports.

We will continue to be outside of the Metropolitan Detention Center until all of the electricity and heat is restored, and the neglected medical needs are met with proper care and treatment. If you would like to support the cause, you can donate to The Gathering for Justice. We are grateful for the number of concerned community members who have committed to sending food and survival kits, and elected officials who've joined us on the ground, gone into the facility, and shared information about the situation inside with us and the family members who are desperate for any news about their loved ones.

Tamika D. Mallory is the social justice leader, advocate, activist and co-leader of the Women's March. Mysonne Linen is a Bronx-based MC known as "The N.Y. General" whose seven year experience in prison propelled him into fighting for criminal justice reform.

Here's How You Can #TalkToTheBabies If They Disclose Their HIV Status

"I share this with the hope that the sentiment may support you if a young person you know trusts you enough to share."

By David J. Johns

Anyone who knows me knows that I am passionate about ensuring that every child born is safe and supported in the process of figuring out who they are in the world that we have invited them into. Here's what I hope, in my heart, I will always communicate with any young person of color who confides in me their HIV status. I share this with the hope that the sentiment may support you if a young person you know trusts you enough to share.

Say Thank You. Begin by thanking the person for trusting me enough to share. It is important to acknowledge how brave and transformative the person is in being vulnerable enough to tell you about their status. No one owes you anything, including personal information about themselves, which is why it is important for us to create space where people feel safe and af-

firmed before they may need to share something important. When thinking about HIV, often people of color are thinking about the shame and stigma associated with HIV/AIDS and how to manage existing relationships with themselves and members of their family and community. Give grace. Acknowledge the strength required for someone to share.

Commit to Remaining Present. Not a single one among us is supposed to endure the weight of navigating life alone. It is important to affirm that you will remain a present, caring, and conscious member of the community that's required to ensure the person thrives. Care and support, by non-judgmental, compassionate people is important: to facilitate immediate access to treatment when a person is diagnosed with HIV; to support adherence to treatment to attain viral suppression for people living with HIV; to enhance the prevention and management of HIV-related infections; and support coping with the challenges of living with HIV. Follow the lead of the person who is recently diagnosed with



David J. Johns

HIV. The person may not always want to talk about their status or may not be ready. They may want to connect with you in the same ways they did before being diagnosed. They may need a shoulder to cry on someone who is available to talk. Commit to do the things you did together before their diagnosis; talk about things you talked about before their diagnosis. Find ways to affirm that they are more than their diagnosis—they are. Do not judge.

Champion Holistic Health. Take on the task of serving as their number one health supporter. Make sure the person has access to medical care to manage their HIV. By getting linked to HIV medical care early they

can start and develop a plan to adhere to treatment with HIV medication. Staying in care enables people living with HIV to keep the virus under control and prevent their HIV infection from progressing to AIDS. Unfortunately, when one is first diagnosed they may not know where to go to get treatment, have the means to get treatment, or may even feel a sense of hopelessness that encourages denial and avoidance of treatment. Let the person know that you have their back and help them navigate the health care system, which includes getting into treatment, adhering to medication and medical recommendations, and serving as their number one ally when others might stig-

matize them and impeded their journey to wellness. Leverage your privilege for good and commit to disrupting the stigma that too often causes people to suffer in silence.

—Exec Director of NBJC, David J. Johns talks World AIDS Day and disproportionate rate in the Black community—

The #WordsMatterHIV toolkit, developed by the

National Black Justice Coalition, includes language, activities, and resources that can be helpful to you in accomplishing the above-mentioned goals and in having affirming, positive, potentially life-saving conversations about sexual health and wellness.

David J. Johns serves is the executive director of the National Black Justice Coalition, the nation's leading civil rights organization dedicated to the empowerment of Black lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and same-gender loving (LGBTQ/SGL) people, including people living with HIV/AIDS. He is known for his passion, public policy acumen and fierce advocacy for intersectional social justice.

VOICE YOUR OPINION
Write a "Letter to The Editor" ... and Voice Your Opinion

Send it to:
Daytonweek@aol.com

PARITY INC.**Presents Annual "Top Ten" African American Males Luncheon – 2019...***Continued from Page 1*

Mr. Richard Wright, Executive Director of Parity, Inc. in describing this very special event has explained that the honorees chosen for each year are focused on Community Service and Service to Youth and is very competitive. The word Parity itself is described as a non-profit organization with a mission that includes improving and strengthening the educational, economic and social opportunities for African Americans.

A near capacity crowd in The Ponitz Center on Thursday, February 14, included not only community leaders, Dayton citizens and elected officials, but did lack the usual large numbers of students who usually are present. Their absence was due to the closing of several schools because of a water shortage in the city and many schools had been closed.

The Afternoon began with Master of Ceremony, Mr. Jeffrey J. Mims, Jr. Commissioner, City of Dayton providing a special welcome and the introduction of the Dais Honored Guests followed by the Invocation provided by Rev. Fr. Benjamin E. K. Speare-Hardy, II of St. Margaret's Episcopal Church. The Color Guard from Belmont High School and the National Anthem & Lift Every Voice and Sing provided by Ms. Billi Ewing were also featured.

Lunch was then served followed by Patricia Meadows, Parity, Inc. Co-Chair presenting a Welcome. Ms. Debbie Lieberman, President, Montgomery County Commission also presented special Greetings.

A special feature was added this year with each honoree sharing personal comments via video during lunch. At the conclusion of the videos, Master of Ceremony, Jeff Mims along with Richard Wright, Executive Director, began the introduction of this year's honorees. The initial honoree was: Mr. Steven A. Alston,

an IT Professional and a key member of the Enterprise Information Management team at CareSource. He is a gentleman who encourages young people to pursue academic preparation in the STEM area. He is also an active member of the Unity Lodge #115 where his responsibilities are participating with the group that focuses on the development of young men which is called Pythagoreans. He also serves as a volunteer with the young men in the YMCA program by coaching soccer, basketball and flag football. Mr. Alston attends Corinthian Baptist Church and is married to Kortni and are parents to five children.

Dr. Major K. Lee, III has served in the Dayton area community as a pediatric dentist for nearly forty-five years. He has won many awards and is one among a group of medical profession-

als who worked to create Horizons in Medicine, an introduction into medical specialists for junior and senior level high school students.

Dr. Lee served on the board of the Dayton Dental Society and was recruited for this position and was one of the founders of the Trotwood Education Foundation that was established to provide resources for students enrolled in the Trotwood Madison School District. A member of Wayman Chapel AME Church, a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Dr. Lee is married to Valerie and the couple have two adult children.

Minister Derrick L. Malone, Sr. is the owner and operator of Roofcrete since 1998. He is currently the Teen Pastor at the Omega Baptist Church, a ministry that provides teens and young adults the spiritual and life-skill tools to become contributing adults in our society. He has also teamed up with the I.H.O.P.E. organization that serves the community without publicized recognition through financial, social and spiritual support. Mr. Malone Sr. is a community leader and community activist and tithes his time and resources wherever he sees a need. He is the father of three children and constantly mentors and encourages his nieces and nephews.

Mr. James L. Martin is employed by Dell EMC as an account executive. He manages Dell partners and Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) in Ohio, Michigan and Pennsylvania. He encourages African American students to consider a high-tech career and is a mentor to minorities in business and technical sales via the Dell Black Network Alliance. Mr. Martin is a Deacon for the Omega Baptist Church, serving as the chair of the Employment and the Finance Committee. A stage IV cancer survivor, he also mentors others with cancer. He is a WATCHD.O.G.S (Dads of Great Students) which is a nationally recognized program to involve male role models in their student's school. Mr. Martin has been married to his wife Sonya for more than thirty and they have two adult daughters.

Mr. Brandon C. McClain was admitted to the practice of law in the state of Ohio (2011), as well as the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio. His legal experience includes being an Acting Judge and Magistrate in the Dayton Municipal Court. Recently Mr. McClain was elected as Montgomery County Recorder, after being appointed in March of 2018 following the passing of Willis Blackshear, Sr. Since assuming office, Mr. McClain has introduced and implemented two programs of note: The Veterans Identification Card Program and the Fraud Alert Notification System.

He serves on the Dayton Public Schools Operational Advisory Committee, the Board of Trustees for the Dayton Bar Association, the Mary Scott Nursing Center Board of



Everyone in attendance enjoyed the great food and being a part of the celebration of the Top Ten African American Males.

Directors and is a Men of Color Initiative Participant at Dunbar High School. He is also an active member of St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church.

Mr. Ronnie Moreland is the Co-Convener of the Dayton Community Revitalization Network (DCRN) which is a non-profit organization with a mission to improve the quality of life for residents and citizens within West Dayton, Ohio and the vicinity through collaborative efforts in the areas of economic development, public education, and re-entry initiatives. Mr. Moreland is a North Central Land Use Committee member and its past Parliamentarian, and is the Northwest Priority Board's Recording Secretary in the Princeton Heights Neighborhood. He is also an eight-year veteran of the U.S. Airforce and a Deacon in the Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church and has dedicated his life to public service. He is married to his wife, Teresa, and the couple have a blended family of eight children.

Mr. Weston Louis Philpot, II is a successful business owner and a genuine professional that shares his talents and knowledge gained through many years of community mental health counseling services. He has worked for all the major mental health centers in Montgomery County, including Crisis Care. Mr. Philpot takes pride in offering his services to others, especially to those who are in the process of starting a Non-Profit Business. He serves on the Dropout prevention task force at the Wesley Center and works with and advocates for youth through his service as a member of the National Association of Juvenile Correctional Agencies, the Ohio Youth Services Network and the Foster Care Citizen's Review Board. He has been a member of St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church and is married to Mrs. Judith (Pryor) Philpot. The couple have four adult children.

Mr. Amaha Sellassie is an assistant professor at Sinclair Community College and serves as the chair of the City of Dayton Human Relations Council. He is a public sociologist and practitioner scholar and actively pursues equity through listening and walking with the community to center their voice in public policy. He is now President of the GEM City Market Co-op Board which will be a full-service grocery store located

within the food desert of Northwest Dayton. He also initiated and co-directs a free summer/after school Science Technology Engineering Arts and Mathematics (S.T.E.A.M) centered enrichment program called West Dayton Strong for the youth of Desota Bass public housing. Mr. Sellassie has received several select honors since 2015 such as the HRC Civil Rights Award, the Dayton Daily News, Daytonian of the Week; and the Ohio Magazine Excellence in Education Honoree and Southern Christian Leadership Conference Community Service Award. He is also the proud father of one adult daughter.

Mr. David R. Webb, Sr. is a true visionary and is the founder and CEO of the Funk Music Hall of Fame and Exhibition Center here in Dayton, Ohio and is leading a team of Funk enthusiasts to ensure that the history of this music genre is preserved and appreciated. In 1977, several of the top ten records in the nation were for bands in Dayton, Ohio. His experience spans a forty-year career in the music and the entertainment industry. He has produced award-winning television programming and served as a radio host to make sure this genre is not forgotten. Mr. Webb is a 15-year member of Union Lodge #18 Prince Hall Freemasonry (P.H.A.) in Troy, Ohio and is a Past Master of the lodge. He is also a current volunteer for the Montgomery County

Sheriff's Department, the NAACP and a past volunteer at Memorial Hall and with the Trotwood Theater. He is the proud father of one adult son and one grandson.

Mr. RoShawn Winburn is employed with the City of Dayton Human Relations Council and manages the Greater Dayton Minority Business Assistance Center as its Program Director. In this capacity, he provides free consulting services to disadvantaged business owners, and negotiates community benefit agreements with major financial institutions to bring access to capital and business consulting services to minorities in low to moderate income communities. Mr. Winburn developed a free podcast series for financial literacy and wealth management, which is available on Apple's iTunes and is a veteran of military service, having served in the U.S. Air Force and Ohio Air National Guard. He further volunteers for local schools and served as a St. Christopher School Youth Basketball Coach. He has also served as a board member with Parity Inc., Norris Cole Foundation, BJ Kids Foundation and Epilepsy Foundation. Recently married, to Lisa Baker, he is father to a blended family of four children.

Following the presentation of each honoree, Mr. Emmett Orr, Parity, Inc. Co-Chair paid a special tribute to Ms. Marsha Greer, Parity Education Director. Mr. Orr shared

a brief history of the birth of Parity and Ms. Greer's work and commitment to the organization. He also highlighted the work of Mrs. Patricia Meadows and asked the Steering Committee to stand and be recognized.

Executive Director – Mr. Richard Wright then added his personal appreciation for Parity and the hard work so many individuals have performed. He also acknowledged the support that the Dayton community has demonstrated.

Mr. Orr was asked to remain and provided the sponsors as well as adding his special welcome. He began by saying that the task he had was one that he thoroughly enjoys because it gives him the opportunity to acknowledge and thank that local businesses that have supported Parity over the years. They included: Premier Health; Vectren; DP&L; Sinclair Community College; Montgomery County Human Service Planning and Development Department; Miller Valentine Group; The Innings Foundation; Ademis Board; and the State of Ohio Community Connection.

He closed by saying the following: "On behalf of the 2900 Mentees and the thirteen thousand, five hundred students who have benefited and more than three hundred twenty-five Black Leadership graduates, I say thank you for your support."

Following Mr. Orr's presentation, Mr. Mims asked for a Moment of Silence/Memorial, for Deceased Honorees followed by Mr. William Gillespie who made closing remarks and encouraged attendees for supporting Parity by contributing monetary donations – by using the envelopes found on each table.

Mr. Mims also thanked attendees for their attendance and asked for the Benediction provided by Rev. Fr. Benjamin E. K. Speare-Hardy, II.

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Education

Dayton Public Schools' Plan Will Lead to Change for the Better... Continued from Page 1

behavioral health a part of this priority. When student and family needs are met, students can spend more time in the classroom learning.

Organizational excellence must take precedence for the district to be truly exceptional, and DPS recognizes that change needs to occur to meet this goal. The Board identified the need for improved customer service and organizational culture across the district as an important part of changing for the better.

Falling under the umbrella of organizational excellence is enrollment and staffing. Enrollment is currently below what it was this time last year. Because of that, recruiting students back to DPS who have left, as well as recruiting quality staff who reflect our student population, must take priority.

Maintaining and upgrading our district buildings is another important part of im-

proving our organization. Although district buildings are relatively new, a solid facilities improvement plan that includes both preventative and required maintenance needs to be prioritized. With that, comes the need to review yearly the "rightsizing plan" created in 2018, which ensures that the district is operating with the correct number of buildings to be both fiscally responsible and to properly serve students.

Fiscal responsibility to taxpayers is always a priority. DPS is highlighting the importance of using taxpayer money for instruction and classrooms, as well as maintaining a balanced, reasonable budget and spending pattern.

Finally, creating quality partnerships and providing leadership training from the boardroom to the classroom are crucial for long-term success.

High quality partnerships with outside organizations, businesses, universities and parent groups that are also focused on

supporting DPS priorities will help the district meet its goals. The other side of that coin is proper leadership training for all board members and prospective administrators and teachers. Training gives the district an opportunity to create a well-staffed school system of those who want to lead it to greatness, with an ultimate goal of success for each student.

With these priorities in place, DPS will truly change for the better.

Dr. Lolli is a 41 year veteran in the education field. She has been a teacher, principal, curriculum director, university professor and a Superintendent throughout her career. She earned her Ph.D. and Bachelor's degree at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. She is the author of one book and numerous published articles. Lolli is a national consultant in the areas of non-graded, multiage education, school reform and literacy.

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U.S. Senate Passes Legislation to Strengthen HBCUs

According to the Philadelphia Tribune, The U.S. Senate has approved a pair of bills designed to strengthen the partnerships between federal agencies and historically Black colleges and universities throughout the country.

The HBCU Propelling Agency Relationships Towards a New Era of Results for Students Act, or HBCU PARTNERS Act, would require federal agencies with relevant grants and programs to expand participation of historically Black colleges and universities, share their plans with Congress, and track their progress toward their goals.

And the reintroduction of the HBCU Preservation Program would reauthorize funding for grants to restore historic buildings and sites on the campuses.

The legislation, which is supported by The United Negro College Fund and the National

Trust for Historic Preservation, is expected to pass the House of Representatives and could become law within a matter of weeks.

"Partnerships are a high priority under our new strategic plan," Lincoln University President Brenda Allen said in a statement to The Tribune. "Through a myriad of strategic partnerships, Lincoln works with local, regional, national and international partners to develop property, conduct research, solve community problems and contribute to the cultural life of the community."

Allen noted that the HBCU Historic Preservation Program would provide "critical funding" to the historically Black university located in Chester County, which was founded in 1854.

As a point of comparison, public universities receive 43 percent of their revenues from grants, federal contracts, or appropriations on average, while



Photo: Lorraine Hansberry Hall (Lincoln.edu)

HBCUs only receive approximately 1 percent. These startling statistics come courtesy of David K. Sheppard, the senior vice president of General Counsel for the Thurgood Marshall College Fund, a nonprofit that represents the Black college community.

"That's a jarring statistic," Sheppard told the Tribune. "In essence, what the legislation will do is allow our institutions to undertake the capacity building efforts that have been lacking to try to close the divide. "It's not only simply about our HBCUs surviving, but thriving, legislation like the HBCU PARTNERS Act will set

the stage to allow our HBCUs to thrive."

According to the Pew Research Center, nearly 300,000 students attended HBCUs in 2015.

The Milford Beacon explains the act as such:

The act builds on the president's 2017 executive order on HBCUs. It will require federal agencies with relevant grants and programs to undertake annual planning and coordinate their efforts to support and expand HBCU participation those programs. The bill strengthens the rigor and transparency requirements of existing law by requiring that agencies track their progress toward past goals and share

their plans with Congress. In addition, it codifies the president's board of advisers on HBCUs, ensuring an ongoing avenue for the institutions' priorities and policy concerns to be raised.

Sheppard, who formerly served as vice president for legal and government affairs and general counsel at Delaware State University, is particularly fond of the fact that this legislation would provide Congress with oversight and ultimately enforcement.

"That is a relevant issue on every one of our campuses and being able to have those funds avail-

able to maintain those facilities and have them meet current federal law whether it's related to the Americans with Disabilities Act or something else is imperative," Sheppard said. "We do need those resources. Both pieces of legislation are important."

Democratic Sen. Chris Coons, who introduced the HBCU PARTNERS Act with Republican Sen. Tim Scott, released the following statement:

"HBCUs today continue their tradition of opening higher education to new generations of students. They educate 300,000 students across the country, 70 percent of whom receive Pell grants and charge almost 30 percent less tuition than their peer institutions. I'm proud to make sure that federal agencies actively work to support HBCUs' critical missions."

Dayton Public Schools Hosting Winter Career Fair

DPS accepting applications for all positions

DPS is hosting a career fair for those interested in working for the district. Applications are being accepted for many positions, including teachers, principals, school bus drivers, paraprofessionals, administration, food preparers and clericals. Supervisors will be on site to answer questions.

The career fair will be held on Saturday, March

2, 2019 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at DPS Community Room, 115 S. Ludlow St., Dayton, OH 45402

(Free parking in the lot behind the building)

Please dress professionally and bring your résumé. Walk-ins are welcome, but those interested can also pre-register for the event online: <http://bit.ly/DPScareerfair>

About Bethesda

Headquartered in Watertown, Wis., Bethesda is a national Christian organization, providing homes and other services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities since 1904. Bethesda strives to become a central point of connection that unites people who have disabilities with commu-

nities and provides essential resources to help them live their lives to the fullest through more than 300 programs across the country. For more information, go to <http://www.bethesda.org/>, like our Facebook page and follow us on Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram and Pinterest.

Lutheran Seminarians, College Students Invited to Apply for Bethesda Auxiliary Scholarships

A total of \$30,000 is available for individuals who plan to enhance the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities

Milwaukee – The Bethesda Auxiliary, in partnership with Bethesda Lutheran Communities, is offering \$30,000 in student scholarships for the 2019-20 school year. The scholarships are for undergraduate- or graduate-level students, including seminarians.

"We're excited to support youth who hope to put their talents and energy toward enhancing the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities," said Karen Carter, president of the Bethesda Auxiliary. "Recognizing the achievements of stu-

dents who have a shared interest in supporting our mission elevates us all. It's gratifying to support these students in such a direct way."

The deadline to apply is May 17, 2019, with results to be announced by July 1, 2019. To download an application, go to <https://www.bethesdalca.org/get-involved/scholarships/>.

Seminarian/Post-Graduate Students: Five \$3,000 scholarships will be awarded to a Lutheran seminarian or post-graduate displaying interest in service to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in a congregational setting. The scholarship application is open to all eligible seminary/post-graduate students.

Criteria:

Be an active, communicant member of a Lutheran congregation.

Be a current college senior, accepted to begin seminary studies in the fall, or currently be classified as a first-year or second-year student at any seminary affiliated with the WELS, LCMS, ELCA, LCMC, ELS or NALC. Students going on to their internship/vicariate year do not qualify.

Have a commitment to inclusion of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities within the local parish.

College and University Students: Five \$3,000 scholarships will be awarded to junior and senior students pursuing undergraduate degrees in any academic area that will prepare them to serve and

support people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Criteria:

Be an active, communicant member of a Lutheran congregation.

Be classified as a freshman, sophomore or junior at an accredited college or university.

Have a minimum overall GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.

Have a career objective in the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities.

About the Bethesda Auxiliary

The Bethesda Auxiliary is a nationwide organization that reaches forward in faith, word and deed by sharing the love of Jesus with people who have developmental disabilities in partnership with Bethesda.

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SERVICE SCHEDULE
Adult Bible Study - Sunday 9 AM
Worship Service - Sunday 8 AM & 10:30 AM
Sunday School - Sunday 10:30AM

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SUNDAY
Sunday School.....8:30 a.m.
Morning Worship Services.....10:00 a.m.

WEDNESDAY
AM Prayer Meeting.....9:30 a.m.
Bible Study.....11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Saturday
Bible Study.....11:00 a.m.

Pastor Cory J. Pruitt

1501 W. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Dayton, OH, 45412

WAYMAN CHAPEL A.M.E. CHURCH

3317 Hoover Avenue ~ Dayton, Ohio 45407
Rev. Gerald A. Cooper, Pastor

937-268-6729 ~ Office 937-267-9804 ~ Fax

SUNDAY
Church School 9:00 a.m.
Worship Services 10:00 a.m.

WEDNESDAY
Prayer Meeting/Bible Study Noon

THURSDAY
Food & Clothing Pantry 10:00 a.m - 1:00 p.m.

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Rev. Elmer S. Martin, Pastor
1620 West Fifth Street
Dayton, OH 45402-2910
Church Phone: 937-223-5115
Fax: 937-223-8872
Email: greater_allen_ame@att.net

Church Sunday School.....9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship.....10:45 a.m.
Women's Bible Study - Monday.....6:30 p.m.
Noonday Bible Study - Wednesday.....12:00 p.m.
Prayer Meeting - Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.
Bible Study - Wednesday.....7:30 p.m.

Believers Christian Fellowship Church

3010 McCall Street, Dayton, OH 45417
Tel. No.: 937-279-9343, Fax: 937-279-9342
Toll Free: 1-844-679-9343
email:bcfchurch@swohio.twcbc.com

Sunday Service.....9:30 a.m.
Church School - Sunday.....8:45 a.m.
& Wednesday.....1:00 p.m.
Bible Study/Prayer Meeting - Every Wednesday starting at.....6:00 p.m.

Check out our website: www.believers-christian.org
Listen to our weekly radio show every Sunday at 8 am on 98.7 FM

Zion Baptist Church

"And I, if I be lifted up from the Earth, will draw all men unto me."

(937) 275-6906
Fax 276-6267

Sunday
Church School.....9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m.
Tues. Bible Study.....6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting.....6:00 p.m.

Other Ministry
email: rockney.carter@gmail.com
1684 Earlam Drive • Dayton, OH 45406

Bethel Missionary Baptist Church

401 S. Paul Laurence Dunbar St. - Dayton, Ohio 45407
Rev. Xavier L. Johnson, Senior Pastor
937-222-4373 - Office - Email: offices@bmbcd Dayton.org

Church School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
Bible Study 12:00 noon
Word & Worship 6:30 p.m.

Bethel services are aired on DSTV Time Warner Wednesdays at 3:00 p.m. and Saturdays at 9:00 p.m. Time Warner Cable 992

ZION HILL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Dr. Junior F. Greenlee - Pastor
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Morning Worship.....10:55 AM
Wed. Prayer Service.....6:00 PM

ZION HILL BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
Mondays & Fridays - 6:00 p.m.

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Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Mid Week Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.
Dr. William T. Cox, Sr., Pastor

SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH

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Office: 937-268-6711 Fax: 937-221-8040

Rev. Dr. Marcellus Cunningham, D.Min., Pastor
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
Wednesday Prayer/Bible Study, 12:00 & 7:00 p.m.
Evening Prayer, 6:30 p.m.

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Religion

A Celebration of Prayer, Praise and Preaching to Honor the Pastoral Anniversary of Pastor Renard D. Allen, Jr.



St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church will hold a Celebration of Prayer, Praise and Preaching in observance of Pastor Renard D. Allen, Jr.'s second pastoral anniversary. The series of worship events features guest preachers from throughout the city and around the United States and culminates on Sunday, March 3, when the Rev. A. L. Williams, II, Pastor, New Sunlight Baptist Church, Lake Charles, LA, will be the guest preacher at the 10:45 a.m. service. The Rev. Dr. Charles Booth, Pastor, Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, Columbus, OH and his church congregation will be St. Luke's guest at 5:30

Pastor Renard D. Allen, Jr.
p.m. on March 3. The month-long celebration, which began on Feb. 6, includes the following churches:
• Wednesday, February 20th, 7pm, Rev. Dr. K. Edwin Bryant, Pastor, Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church.
• Sunday, February 24th, 10:45am, Rev. Renard D. Allen, Sr., Greater Rose Hill Baptist Church, Houston, TX.
• Sunday, February 24th, 5:00pm, Rev. James E. Washington, Pastor,

Phillips Temple Church. Special Guest Choir, The GMWA Dayton Chapter Choir.
• Wednesday, February 27, 2019, 7:00pm, Rev. Dr. Jamison Hunter, Pastor, Macedonia Baptist Church.
St. Luke, which is located at 2262 N. Gettysburg Ave., Dayton, OH, is a Ministry for People on the Grow. The public is invited to come and worship with the church.

Church Events?

Let the Public know... Advertise in the Dayton Weekly News.
Contact for information to (937) 223-8060 or email to DaytonWeek@aol.com

Religious Go For It



By: Pastor E.A. Deckard
The walls are coming down and you're getting ready to Go For It and possess everything God has stored up for you in 2019.
Joshua 6
1 Now the gates of Jericho were securely barred because of the Israelites. No one went out and no one came in.
2 Then the LORD said to Joshua, "See, I have delivered Jericho into your hands, along with its king and its fighting men.
3 March around the city once with all the armed men. Do this for six days.
4 Have seven priests carry trumpets of rams' horns in front of the ark. On the seventh day, march around the city seven times, with the priests blowing the trumpets.
5 When you hear them sound a long blast on the trumpets, have the whole army give a loud shout; then the wall of the city will collapse and the army will go up, everyone straight in."
Jericho is the place of

destiny you, your family, and friends have been waiting for. Forward Thinkers, we finally have an opportunity to get to Jericho.
Jericho represents the manifestation of God's promises over your life. Jericho is the answer to all your prayers.
But, there has been a gate and wall keeping you out of Jericho. Notice no one is going in and no is coming out.
The word of God promises we are blessed coming in and blessed going out but our current circumstances have brought the blessings to a standstill.
Watch closely those who are focused on stopping you from getting to Jericho (what God has for you) are also unknowingly forcing themselves to stay stuck behind the walls of Jericho. People who attack you don't realize they are also hurting themselves in the process.
THEN a shift in the story line took place and God made His move on your

behalf.
God made a promise to take the dream from your head to your hands. In 2019 you will receive a special delivery from God with your name on it.
March of Faith
The walls are still up. The gate is still locked but start marching by faith and in faith. March by the beat of God's Promises.
Jeremiah 29:11
For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.
Matthew 11:28-29
"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.
John 14:27
"I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind
Continued on Page 9

Arts & Entertainment

'High Flying Bird' actress Sonja Sohn: Athletes should "adopt whole neighborhoods"



NEW YORK, NEW YORK - Sonja Sohn attends the Netflix 'High Flying Bird' Film Comment Select Special Screening at Walter Reade Theater on February 07, 2019 in New York City. (Photo by Steven Ferdman/Getty Images for Netflix)

By Natasha S. Alford

Actress Sonja Sohn (*The Chi*, *The Wire*) is starring in a new Netflix basketball drama, in which art perfectly imitates life when it comes to Black athletes.

'High Flying Bird' is the tale of a Black basketball agent's (André Holland) fight to give his rookie draft pick a winning strategy during an NBA lockout. The movie was written by 'Moonlight' co-writer and playwright Tarell Alvin McCraney. Sohn, plays Myra, a witty and confident players representative who wants the best for the athletes she works for.

But in real life, Sohn, also wants the best for Black athletes who are playing sports in increasingly challenging social and political climates.

"The [movie's] subtitle is 'play the game on top of the game,'" Sohn tells theGrio. "In my mind, I'm like 'Nah, own the game.'"

"Ultimately the game that we're all playing, that we are roped into playing is a capitalist

game," Sohn continues. "We live in a capitalist society and that's a society that ensures that there is an underclass and the underclass is to be treated a certain way."

In Sohn's point of view, athletes should play smart and accumulate wealth, which can be used to change the game for future generations.

"Honestly what I'd love to see is super wealthy Black folks, especially somebody like these athletes, just go and adopt whole neighborhoods," Sohn tells theGrio. "Just be like, 'This my neighborhood. I'm pouring. There's only so much money that I need to live off of for the rest of my life really.'"

Sohn says athletes like LeBron James are the perfect example of businessmen building a future beyond themselves. James, who starred in this week-end's NBA All-Star game, founded his own school and owns the media company Uninterrupted, which has already produced acclaimed documentaries like 'Shut Up and Dribble' (2018).

"Clearly his post-bas-

ketball plan is already in motion. He's got a production company that putting out good material you know stuff that's in his wheelhouse that he feels connected to," says Sohn.

"I really respect that he looks like he's developing ownership in other areas. He's leveraging his position there and then creating."

Sohn's philosophy of giving back is one she's backed up with her own activism. The actress, who had a longtime role as Detective Shakima Greggs in 'The Wire,' created the Baltimore-based outreach program called reWIRED for change. Sohn also directed "Baltimore Rising" (2017) a documentary about Freddie Gray.

She can also be seen playing the role of Laverne in the second season of "The Chi," where similar to her other projects, the message of empowerment is loud and clear.

"The people deserve to have a voice, which I think that show gives them," says Sohn. "So you know what I think they're lots of fans that are going to continue to be fans after the second season."

It Looks Like Jussie Smollett's Case Is Headed to Grand Jury



According to TMZ, Jussie Smollett's case will go before a grand jury early next week.

Law enforcement sources informed TMZ that a panel will hear the case, however it's unclear as to who is facing charges or what those charges might entail.

On Sunday, Anthony Guglielmi, the Chief Communications Officer for the Chicago PD, took to Twitter to release a official statement:

"While we are not in a position to confirm, deny or comment on the validity of what's been unofficially released, there are some developments in this investigation and detectives have some follow-ups to complete which include speaking to the individual who reported the incident," he wrote.

On Jan. 29, the Empire star told Chicago police he was assaulted by two men spewing racist and homophobic slurs at him. But his story has since been called into question as more and more details surrounding the alleged assault have surfaced.

It's all been a bit confusing to follow, so here's a timeline of events thus far, courtesy of the New Times:

Jan. 29: Smollett, who is black and openly gay, tells police that at about 2 a.m., two masked men he believed to be white attacked him on the 300 block of East Lower North Water Street in Downtown Chicago. The assailants, according to Smollett, hurled homophobic and racial slurs at him, put a rope around his neck and poured a chemical substance on him.

Smollett says he went home and a close associate of his reported the incident to the police 40 minutes after it happened. Guglielmi later told The Chicago Sun-Times that Smollett had been hesitant to call the police because of his status as a public figure.

Law enforcement officials say they are treating the incident "as a possible hate crime." At a follow-up visit by investigators, Smollett says the attackers mentioned "MAGA country," a reference to Mr. Trump's campaign slogan.

Several A-list celebrities, politicians, and advocacy groups offer their support to Smollett. Fox, the network on which "Empire" airs, issues a statement saying the "entire studio, network and production stands united in the face of any despicable act of violence and

hate."

Detectives comb through surveillance camera recordings but say they can't find images of the attack.

Jan. 30: Investigators announce the first tangible progress in the case: a surveillance image shows "potential persons of interest wanted for questioning" in connection to the case. The images are of two men with their backs to the camera.

At this point, the F.B.I. is already investigating a threatening letter sent to Smollett at the "Empire" production offices in Chicago the week before.

Jan. 31: Mr. Trump is asked about the incident in the Oval Office. He refers to it as "horrible" and added that it "doesn't get worse."

The Smollett family releases a statement: "Jussie was the victim of a violent and unprovoked attack. We want to be clear, this was a racial and homophobic hate crime. Jussie has told the police everything from the very beginning. His story has never changed, and we are hopeful they will find these men and bring them to justice."

Feb. 1: Smollett releases his first public statement through his publicist. It says, "Let me start by saying that I'm O.K. My body is strong but my soul is stronger. More importantly, I want to say thank you. The outpouring of love and support from my village has meant more than I will ever be able to truly put into words."

Acknowledging some skepticism about his story on social media, Smollett adds, "I am working with authorities and have been 100 percent factual and consistent on every level. Despite my frustrations and deep concern with certain inaccuracies and misrepresentations that have been spread, I still believe that justice will be served."

The Chicago police superintendent, Eddie T. Johnson, says in an interview with a local television station, "We have to remember, he's a victim. You know, so we have to treat it like he's a victim. We have no reason to think that he's not being genuine with us."

Feb. 2: Smollett appears in public for the first time since he reported the attack, performing a concert in West Hollywood.

"I have so many words on my heart that I want to say, but the most important thing I can say is,

thank you so much, and that I'm O.K.," Smollett tells the crowd.

Feb. 4: The Chicago police say the people of interest have not been identified yet but they are continuing to follow up on leads.

Feb. 11: The department reacts to phone records that Smollett turned over to investigators. The police had asked Smollett for access to his phone because he had been in conversation with his manager when the incident occurred. Smollett provides the police with redacted records that they say "do not meet the burden for a criminal investigation."

Feb. 13: Two brothers of Nigerian descent, Olabinjo and Abimbola Osundairo, are detained by authorities after landing in Chicago on a flight from Nigeria. Police raid their home and, according to CBS Chicago, remove items including an "Empire" script and two hats.

Feb. 14: Smollett gives his first interview about the incident to "Good Morning America," where he is adamant that he is telling the truth.

"It feels like if I had said it was a Muslim, or a Mexican, or someone black, I feel like the doubters would have supported me much more," Smollett tells ABC's Robin Roberts. "A lot more."

He also says he is convinced that the men in the surveillance images were his attackers.

"Because I was there," Smollett says. "For me, when that was released, I was like, 'O.K., we're getting somewhere.' I don't have any doubt in my mind that that's them. Never did."

The Chicago police reveal publicly that at least one of the men detained has appeared as an extra on "Empire." The department also says they "are not yet suspects." Their lawyer, Gloria Schmidt, tells CBS Chicago, "They're really baffled why they are people of interest. They really don't understand how they even got information that linked them to this horrific crime. But they're not guilty of it. They know that the evidence is going to prove them innocent. They send their best to Jussie."

Continued on Page 9

21 Savage Turns Himself In for Felony Theft Warrant



21 Savage

You would think that after all the hell rapper 21 Savage went through to finally win his freedom after facing deportation from ICE, that he'd be able to lay low and plot out his next moves.

But apparently that's not the case, as the Atlanta Journal-Constitution reports the "A Lot" spitter surrendered to authorities on Friday, following his pre-taped Good Morning America appearance, for a felony

theft by deception warrant. Per the Liberty County Sheriff's Office, he was later released.

According to TMZ, the charge stems from a failed concert booking from 2016, in which a promoter paid the Atlanta native \$17,000 for a performance he never followed through with. So to recoup his losses, the promoter filed paperwork to get a warrant issued for the 26-year-old rapper's arrest.

"He is trying to clean up his past as much as he can

and rapper Jay-Z has been trying to help him," Liberty County Sheriff Steve Sikes told the Coastal Courier. "The warrant is from some years ago and he went through the process and addressed the issue."

"This is really a civil contract dispute," said Abbi Taylor, one of 21 Savage's attorneys. "We are optimistic that it will be resolved to the satisfaction of all of the parties and dismissed."

Dayton Section NCNW Embraced 2018 with Power, Celebrates 2019 with Purpose...
Continued from Page 2



Members of the Dayton Section and Southern Ohio State Coalition Representative. (L-R): 1st VP Rosalee Bradley, Judge Adele Riley, Corresponding Secretary, Ericka Joseph, Southern Ohio State Representative, Latisha Hazell, immediate past president Tonya Todd and President Carol Prewitt

spirit and praise. The following individual accepted plaques for their organization's impactful community service: Cheryl Williams - Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Beta Eta Omega Chapter, Kim Browner - Dayton Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., NCNW member, Mattie White accepted for Pamela Shine - Montgomery County Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Karen Matthews - Lambda Chapter, Eta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Charlisha Rankin - Epsilon Kappa Sigma Chapter, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., Tawana McKinney - Top Ladies of Distinction, and Annette Ross-Gray - Delta Phi Zeta Chapter, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. The following NCNW members received special recognition for their many contribution to the Section: Regina Anderson, Glenda Redwine-Gilyot, Ericka Joseph, Judge Adele Riley, Tonya Todd, and Mary Ellen Young.

December 16, 2018, we held our Christmas Celebration at the Stillwater Center. Over 30 ladies and youth were in attendance. Everyone enjoyed the ambiance of the holiday decorations, good food, holiday music, fun and games, and loving sisterly relations. The Section collected Christmas gifts for the residents of Stillwater. A good time was had by all.

As 2019 ushered in NCNW ladies continued to move forward focused and with a purpose to serve and make a



Newly elected Chair and 7th National President, Dr. Johnetta B. Cole and President Carol Prewitt.

difference. February 14th, Valentine's Day, members delivered teddy bears to children to brighten their day and bring a smile to their faces. Under the leadership of Mrs. Priscilla Jones and Sherri Walton, the Section collects between 400-800 teddy bears each year for our Teddy Bear Round Up project. Teddy bears were delivered to Montgomery County Children Services, Dayton Children's Medical Center, and the Batter Women Women's Shelter. Lincoln Academy, Kettering Behavioral Medical Center and Stillwater Center also received teddy bears. The children were filled with so much joy. There were many smiles shared that day.

During our regular Section meeting February 17th, the Youth participated in the annual Black History program, presenting Reflections: African

American Women Who Made A Difference. They shared historical facts about several African American women who made a positive impact in the areas of civil rights, politics, entrepreneurship and more. The keynote speaker for the Section was our own NCNW member, our distinguished Judge Mia Wortham Spells. She shared words of wisdom embodied with her life experiences. She challenged the youth to be true to themselves, know their worth and act accordingly. Judge Spells encouraged them to realize the legacy of greatness which they are a part of. Judge Spells presented each lady with a rose, expressing thanks for their hard work and commitment to NCNW and for being the change agents they have been in their communities and work places. There was a tremendous outpouring of

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sisterly love. A Valentine gift from the Section was given to the oldest member present, our gracious Mary Ellen Young. Judge Spells was presented with a certificate and bouquet of flowers for being the guest speaker and positive role model for our young ladies.

Upcoming event: The Day of Caring Pancake Brunch which NCNW supports each year. It will be held at St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, 5301 Free Pike, Trotwood, Ohio, 9:00 AM – 2:30 PM Sunday, February 24th. All proceeds from this event supports the Homeless and Hunger Coalition. For additional information contact Rosalee Bradley at 937.248.1086.

As Dorothy Height was inspired by Mary McLeod Bethune to use whatever talents to be of service to the community, I invite women and youth who are committed to making a difference to join the Dayton Section. Meetings are held the third Sunday, September to June, 3:00 PM at the Stillwater Center, 8100 N. Main St. For additional information please contact Carmela Daniels at 937.305.8607. For membership information regarding The Dayton/Springfield Life Guild contact Rosalee Bradley at 937.248.1086.

Religious Go For It...
Continued from Page 7

and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid.

March by faith knowing God is with us, God calls us victorious and more than conquerors.

Verse 5 when you HEAR

Faith comes by hearing in 2019 it's very important what you allow yourself to hear. Protect your ears from the voice and sound of the enemy.

Respond in faith before anything even happens.

Notice how you respond to what you hear determines when the walls will come down.

Faith produces manifestation.

Verse 6 God Must Go First Before We Can Go For It

3 Important Keys:

- 1) Structure must be in place to Succeed
 - 2) Discipline leads to Destiny
 - 3) Vision Followers march into Victory
- Jump down to verse 10 because there is another important lesson we must

learn before the walls come down. PATIENCE

We must learn to wait on God's perfect timing.

Those that wait on the Lord shall be in position to Go For It in 2019.

Verse 15 Finally It's Time

Daybreak. This is the day the Lord has made

Our victory, Our breakthrough, Our time has finally arrived

Shout the Lord has given us the city, but remember He requires for us to give it back to Him because in His Hands it remains blessed.

Pastor E. A. Deckard is the Senior Pastor/Founder of the Green House International Church and is also the Co-Founder of the No More Blood Shed Movement in Houston, Texas. To contact Pastor Deckard for speaking engagements contact him at pastoreadeckard@pdq.net, or follow him by downloading the Green House International Church App through your App Store.

It Looks Like Jussie Smollett's Case Is Headed to Grand Jury...
Continued from Page 8

The local news media releases its first reports that investigators are beginning to look at the possibility that this is a hoax, something the Chicago police dispute publicly.

Feb. 15: In a whirlwind day, the detained brothers are identified as potential suspects by police, but that night are released without being charged. Investigators announce they are no longer considered suspects but do not say why.

Feb. 16: The police say they are seeking to speak with Smollett again. Media outlets, including CNN, report that the two men have told investigators they were paid to take part in a hoax. Guglielmi says in a statement, "We can confirm that the information received from the individuals questioned by police earlier in the 'Empire' case has in fact shifted the trajectory of the investigation."

Lawyers for Smollett release a statement saying, "As a victim of a hate crime who has cooperated with the police investigation, Jussie Smollett is angered and devastated by recent reports that the perpetrators are individuals he is familiar with."

It added: "One of these purported suspects was Jussie's personal trainer who he hired to ready him physically for a music video. It is impossible to believe that this person could have played a role in the crime against Jussie or would falsely claim Jussie's complicity."

According to the 36-year-old's lawyers, Smollett has every intention "continue to cooperate" with the investigation.

We'll keep you updated as this story develops.

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1130 West Third St.

Welcome to Black History Month

America Is Losing the Real Meaning of Black History Month (Cont'd from Page 1)

not, because black life is viewed as an expendable character in the American narrative.

Black History Month was aimed squarely at this harsh truth. It was crafted to compel recognition by a stubborn nation of the inimitable and invaluable role black people have played in the creation and sustainment of the United States. It is 28 days of political strategy to recast depictions of the nation's black population as inherently and completely American. It is the reframing of the age-old rhetorical questions posed by Sojourner Truth ("Ain't I a woman?") and abolitionists ("Am I not a man and a brother?"): Are we not Americans and citizens?

If we look at the challenges facing black Americans, the answer to that question is unsatisfactory. And deep down, the nation knows it. Though nearly three in four Americans agree that race relations are bad, we see the issue quite differently. Nearly five times as many white Americans as black ones say the U.S. has already made the changes necessary to give black people equal rights — while four times as many black Americans as white ones believe we will never make those fixes. And yet, six in ten Americans say that racism against black people is widespread.

It is much more comforting to believe that

resolving the race issue is a simple matter of black people assuming more personal responsibility, combined with better policy. But good behavior has never released a people from oppression, not even the Founding Fathers. And without a change in how the nation views its black citizens, even good policy will be used as a cudgel. A magic pill to reduce health disparities would be rationed; a work program to reduce employment disparities would become a cash cow for those in power; and reparations would incite the most creative, exploitive financial vehicles the country has ever seen.

How do we know? Because we've seen the movie before. Housing bubbles and payday lenders come for black wealth first. Affirmative action has helped more white workers and students than black ones. White flight from schools and neighborhoods rose once federal desegregation statues were passed. And changes to state voting laws accelerated once a black President took office. Programs to help those who are not valued provide little value to those who need the programs most.

It's not that policy doesn't matter. As Martin Luther King, Jr., said, "It may be true that law cannot change the heart, but it can restrain the heartless. It may be true that the law cannot make a man love me, but it can keep him from lynching me..." This is true, and yet Trayvon Martin is not here. James

Byrd is not here. Eric Garner and Latasha Harlins are not here. Policy is needed, but the politics of black history tell us that policy ain't enough. Only recognizing and respecting the dignity and equality of black Americans can deliver the nation we all want, and Black History Month is a means to this end.

Don't get me wrong: The accomplishments of black people in the United States merit special attention, particularly given slavery's inhumanity and its vestiges that still shape the nation. And the sustained popularity of the National Museum of African American History and Culture is a testament to the interest and curiosity about black culture that grips much of the nation. But these things exist so Americans will see the humanity in black people, not just so they can walk away with an interesting fact about the first black Senator or an entrepreneur who built a hair-care business empire.

Woodson believed that celebrating black history was a political act to "destroy the dividing prejudices of nationality and teach universal love without distinction of race, merit or rank." Not because learning about, say, a black inventor would inspire white magnanimity, but because failure to accept black people as fellow architects of the United States is an existential threat to the nation we call home.

Traveling Soon? Stress Less And Keep Calm With Meditation

By: Miss Fit Writer

Year round holiday's, special events, spring and summer vacation seasons are the busiest times of the year for recreational and business travel. Domestic and International Flights are the most common and convenient transportation options used for passengers worldwide. Unfortunately, it's also a time where high stress and fatigue during peak air travel can occur. Situations arise such as flight delays, cancellations, long lines, poor customer service, lost luggage, over crowded planes, loud passengers, crying babies and the list goes on. Feelings of frustration, stress and anxiety often exist for travelers. With the practice of Meditation, passengers can learn how to keep calm, relax and reconnect. It's easy to learn, convenient to use and has amazing benefits for the mind, body and spirit.

Meditation is an ancient practice that has been around throughout early history. Africa, India and China are known to utilize various styles, techniques and traditions. Experts indicate that it's a state of peace that happens when the mind is calm and silent. Meditation allows us to become familiar with our awareness in every aspect of our daily lives. Scientific Research has shown that it can increase overall happiness, peace and well-being. Health factors such as high blood pressure, stress, anxiety, depression and insomnia can be reduced. Concen-



tration, clarity and memory can be increased. In addition, this practice promotes stillness, patience, awareness and relaxation.

People of all ages, health status and fitness levels can utilize Meditation. It is considered to be safe, easy and effective. However, I recommend that you speak with your physician before starting any fitness or health related program. In as little as a few minutes, Meditation can calm the mind, soothe the soul and renew overall peace and happiness.

Here's an easy breathing and relaxation technique to try during busy airport travel. Headphones are a great option if you want to cancel out some of the excessive noise during this time. While sitting in a comfortable position, with your back slightly straight, shoulders relaxed, feet flat on the floor, hands resting and eyes gently closed. Take a few deep breaths as you settle into a natural breathing rhythm. Simply relax and let everything

go. If you feel distracted or your mind starts to wonder, continue to focus on the breath. Give yourself a moment to refresh and renew inner feelings of happiness and calmness. Have patience, go slowly and enjoy the moment. This breathing and relaxation technique can be done while sitting in the airport terminal or even while sitting in your passenger seat while on board the airplane. In addition, it's a simple and productive way to give yourself a quick boost of bliss. The rewards of inner calm and peace are worth it.

As a dedicated Meditation practitioner, instructor and advocate. I encourage everyone to take time to relax and unwind with this amazing practice. Check out: Spreaker.Com/Fitness-RocksRadio for free and calming Guided Meditation Sessions. Stress less, keep calm and travel on with Meditation.

She Wanted To Be A Musician Instead, She Became A Groundbreaking Judge In Ohio



OXFORD — Law school wasn't in the plans for Ohio Supreme Court Justice Melody Stewart when she graduated high school.

It was music. "With a name like Melody, what else would I study in college?" Stewart said. "The only thing I wanted to study was music. That's the only thing that interested me, that fascinated me."

Stewart, 56, earned a Bachelor of Music degree in music theory from the College-Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati, but the connection between music and a paycheck wasn't a thought when she chose her major.

"I saw the business of music and the love of music were two entirely separate things, and so I think I loved it too much to try to make a living at it," she said.

That's when she de-

cid to pursue law so her living can help support her musical hobby.

That decision helped her make history in Ohio. Stewart, a Democrat, became the first African-American woman elected to the Ohio Supreme Court in November. Robert Duncan, a Republican, was the first African-American to be elected (1969-1971) and Yvette McGee Brown, a Democrat, was the first African-American woman (appointed in 2011 but lost election in 2012).

Stewart shared her thoughts on her history, her position and her groundbreaking work when she spoke to the Butler County Progressives PAC in Oxford last week.

She earned her law degree at Cleveland-Marshall College of Law — where she later taught — and a Ph.D. at Case Western Reserve University. She also taught at the University of Toledo College of Law and Ursuline College.

In November, Stewart beat former Justice Mary DeGenaro, a Republican appointed to fill a vacancy created by former Justice William O'Neill when he ran for governor in 2018.

But history had nothing to do with her bid, said Stewart, whose first day on the job was Jan. 2.

"To me I was running to be a justice of the Supreme Court, to do the job," she said. "The fact that I would be the first African-American female elected was not a historical significance lost on me, but it really didn't factor in the campaign."

Her focus was convincing people she was the better choice. Stewart only won 28 counties but received at least 40 percent of the vote in 57 of the remaining 60 counties.

She spent 12 years on the 8th Ohio District Court of Appeals before she decided to seek a seat on the Ohio Supreme Court, a race she said many doubted she'd win, given how

Republicans have dominated statewide races. She was one of only three

Democrats to win statewide in November 2018 (with Justice Michael P. Donnelly and U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown).

She won, she said, because she traveled across the state, talking with people, educating them about the Supreme Court and the judiciary. It also helped, she said, that judicial elections are non-partisan.

"We are more alike than we are unlike," Stewart said.

Her time on the Ohio Supreme Court won't be unlike her time on the appellate court, she said. The difference will be in the cases the court accepts.

"Keep in mind, I can do nothing by myself — I have six other colleagues — but I will decide cases the way I always have, based on what the law is to the facts," Stewart said. "I think I bring a different insight to the court that will hopefully trigger different kinds of conversations about cases."

She mostly hopes, though, to make the justice system better in the state, from the Supreme Court down to municipal courts.

"That's working hard with the local bar associations across the state and the community in making courts better, and making things more receptive to people," she said. "Just not having things be the same just because they were that way."

Stewart is also one of the dozens of women

elected to a state office. There were 28 women elected to the Ohio House this year, 14 of whom are first-time lawmakers. Stewart is part of a 4-3 female-majority, which is

not the first time women outnumbered men on the court.

"I do think we do need diversity (on the court), and that's gender diversity and that's ethnic diversity, intellectual diversity," she said.

Trump Looks To Send Food Aid To Haiti As Violence Leads To Humanitarian Crisis...

Continued from Page 3

people "We encourage all of Haiti's lawfully elected representatives, and all Haitians who seek a peaceful political solution consistent with Haiti's constitution, to engage in an inclusive dialogue — without resorting to violent action. We also encourage the full implementation of sound economic policy measures for the benefit of the Hai-

tian people. Improved and transparent resource management will promote long-term economic growth, improve the investment climate and generate employment opportunities."

The U.S. also urged the Moise government to redouble its efforts in fighting corruption and in holding those implicated in the PetroCaribe scandal accountable.

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Health

Colon Cancer And Blacks



Colorectal cancer (CRC) remains the third most common cause of malignancy-related death in men and women in the United States. Each year, about 140,000 Americans are diagnosed with colon cancer, and more than 50,000 die from it. That's bad news, but for African Americans, it's even worse.

African Americans are more likely to get colon cancer; they're more likely to have an advanced stage of disease when they're diagnosed with colon cancer; they're more likely to die from colon cancer and they have shorter survival after diagnosis with colon cancer.

The colon travels up the right side of the body, across, and back down the left side, ending with the rectum. Sometimes small bumps form, called polyps.

Not all of them become cancerous, but there are a number of ways to screen for polyps and remove them. Fecal tests can detect blood or cancerous DNA. There's a colonoscopy, in which a long, thin tube is inserted in the rectum. A tiny camera examines the right and left side of the colon. It sounds painful, but if you get one, you are asleep and don't feel a thing. There's also something called a flexible sigmoidoscopy.

The problem with a flexible sigmoidoscopy test is that African Americans are more likely to develop polyps deeper in the colon, on the right side. According to the National Center for Health Statistics at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1 in 41 Black males will die from colorectal cancer, compared to 1 in 48 White males. The risk is similar for women. One in 44 Black females will die from colorectal cancer, compared to 1 in 53 White females. But African American men are especially likely to refuse a colonoscopy.

So, diets that are very high in fat, particularly animal fat, and very low in fiber, are associated with developing colon cancer later in life.

Other lifestyle factors among African Americans – higher tobacco-related illness, more obesity, less physical activity, and lower intake of vitamins C and E – are also thought to be

tied to colon cancer. Another factor, particularly for African Americans, has to do with the idea that if you're going to die from cancer anyway, you're better off not knowing about it. Even though the purpose of the screening is to find polyps before they become cancerous.

With proper screening and lifestyle adjustments, the incidence of colon cancer can be decreased significantly. The American Institute for Cancer Research recommends at least 30 minutes a day of moderate activity for cancer prevention.

Colorectal cancer in African American men is often discovered in its later stages, not only because the lack of health care keeps many of them from going to the doctor, but also because cultural taboos cause many who have medical coverage not to respond to the early warning signs.

Talking to family and friends about their risk and the need for screening as well as community outreach and education programs, along with regular scheduled physician checkups and colon cancer screening can go a long way in preventing colon cancer. If found early enough, colon cancer can be treated effectively and cured.

The American Cancer Society (ACS) has released an updated guideline for colorectal cancer screening. Among the major guideline changes, the new recommendations say screening should begin at age 45 for people at average risk. Previously, the guideline recommended screening began at age 50 for people at average risk. Recommendations for screening test options are also part of the guideline changes.

New screening age recommendations for those at average risk:

People at average risk of colorectal cancer should start regular screening at age 45.

People who are in good health and with a life expectancy of more than 10 years should continue regular colorectal cancer screening through the age of 75.

People ages 76 through 85 should make a decision with their medical provider about whether to be screened, based on their own personal preferences, life expectancy, overall health, and prior screening history.

People over 85 should

no longer get colorectal cancer screening.

REMEMBER THESE IMPORTANT FACTS:

The rate of being diagnosed with colorectal cancer is higher among African Americans than among any other population group in the United States.

Death rates from colorectal cancer are higher among African Americans than any other population group in the United States.

Experts suggest that African Americans get screened beginning at age 45.

Diet, tobacco use and a lack of access to equal medical treatment options may increase African Americans' risk of developing colorectal cancer.

African American patients experience a larger number of polyps on the right side of the colon, versus the left. A screening endoscopy must cover the entire colon, as is performed with a colonoscopy.

Talking to family and friends about their risk and the need for screening as well as community outreach and education programs, along with regular scheduled physician checkups and colon cancer screening can go a long way in preventing colon cancer.

If found early enough, colon cancer can be treated effectively and cured.

Remember, I'm not a doctor. I just sound like one. Take good care of yourself and live the best life possible!

The information included in this column is for educational purposes only. It is not intended nor implied to be a substitute for professional medical advice.

The reader should always consult his or her healthcare provider to determine the appropriateness of the information for their own situation or if they have any questions regarding a medical condition or treatment plan. Glenn Ellis, is a Health Advocacy Communications Specialist. He is the author of Which Doctor?, and Information is the Best Medicine. He is a health columnist and radio commentator who lectures, nationally and internationally on health related topics. For more good health information listen to Glenn, on radio in Philadelphia; Boston; Shreveport; Los Angeles; and Birmingham., or visit: www.glennellis.com

Denise Moore Joins Ohio's Hospice Of Dayton Staff

Trotwood resident Denise Moore has joined the staff of Ohio's Hospice of Dayton as a Community Outreach Liaison. Formerly employed by a national hospice provider, Moore has joined the local community hospice organization and will serve as an educational representative for physicians, extended care and assisted living facilities and the community. Her primary service area is the city of Dayton and northwestern Montgomery County.

Moore holds a bachelor's degree in Business Management from Central State University and a Masters in Conflict Analysis and Engagement from Antioch University Midwest. For over thirteen years she has been an advocate for patients and families facing end-of-life issues and has been recognized nationally as a leader in the hospice and palliative care industry. As a certified Respecting Choices certified First Steps facilitator for Advance Care Planning and a Chronic Disease Self-Management Program, Healthy U speaker, teacher, and facilitator she provides education to local healthcare professionals, and the community at large.

Her passion to serve and profound belief in educa-



Denise Moore

tion lead her into public service. A mother of four, Moore currently serves as President of the Trotwood-Madison Board of Education. She is also a member partner of KNOW MOORE, LLC, the Trotwood Community Improvement Corporation, and The National Alliance for Black School Educators.

Ohio's Hospice of Dayton is a not-for-profit hospice provider and has served patients and families in the Miami Valley for 40 years in their homes, extended care and assisted living facilities and the Hospice House location in Dayton. Grief support services are available to the entire community through the Pathways of Hope grief support center. Ohio's Hospice of Dayton serves over 600 patients and families daily, achieving national recognition for innovative ser-

vices and outstanding care.

Ohio's Hospice is a partnership of mission-driven, non-profit hospices in Ohio committed to a shared vision of strengthening and preserving community-based hospices. Members of Ohio's Hospice share the values of:

- Providing a patient atmosphere of hospitality, respect and caring
- Attending to the social, physical, and spiritual needs of each person we are privileged to serve
- Preserving and enhancing patient dignity
- Celebrating the life of each individual we serve
- Reducing unnecessary suffering in the communities we serve

Affiliates of Ohio's Hospice include: Community Care Hospice, Hospice of Central Ohio, Ohio's Hospice at United Church Homes, Ohio's Hospice of Dayton, Ohio's Hospice of Butler & Warren Counties, Ohio's Hospice of Fayette County, Ohio's Hospice LifeCare, Ohio's Hospice Loving Care, Ohio's Community Mercy Hospice, Ohio's Hospice at United Church Homes and Ohio's Hospice of Miami County.

Mary Boosalis Named to Modern Healthcare's Top 25 Women Leaders List

Premier Health is proud to announce that its president and CEO, Mary Boosalis, has been recognized by Modern Healthcare as one of its 2019 Top 25 Women Leaders.

The highly selective awards program, which recognizes female health care executives from across the country every two years, acknowledges executives who are influencing policy and care delivery models nationwide. In doing so, it highlights the continued need to nurture diversity in health care leadership.

A full list of this year's winners can be viewed here:

<https://www.modernhealthcare.com/community/top-25-women/2019/>

Boosalis has held numerous leadership roles at Premier Health since joining Miami Valley Hospital in 1986. She became the first woman to lead Premier Health upon being named president and CEO in 2017. Under her leadership, the percentage of Premier Health vice presidents who are women increased to 60 percent in 2018 from 52 percent just a few years earlier. The health system also continues to make great strides in promoting diversity; in recent years, more than half of its construction spending has been with diverse suppliers.

"Mary is a bold and visionary leader, and she surrounds herself with the best and most quali-



Mary Boosalis

fied people in the industry, leveraging their skills and abilities to make solid decisions that benefit Premier Health, our patients and the greater community," said Anita Moore, chair of Premier Health's board of trustees. "Mary truly is an uncommon leader."

"Unfortunately, the gender gap plagues health care just as much as it does other industries," said Aurora Aguilar, editor for Modern Healthcare. "Women CEOs comprise an estimated 30 percent (at most) of the overall C-suite. But the executives named to this year's Top 25 Women Leaders list exemplify how diversity results in success, both clinically and financially."

Boosalis' application details her leadership in delivering health care in innovative ways, positioning Premier Health as the first health system in the Dayton region to offer care virtually, whereby people can access providers via

video or phone chat 24 hours a day, seven days a week. In 2018, the health system also continued to expand its telehealth network, not only for strokes and other emergent cases but also for nonemergency care that allows residents in smaller, more rural areas to receive care closer to home. The health system also recently announced a hub-and-spoke multi-specialty medical office model to enhance access and convenience of care for patients.

Boosalis also continues to support an innovative executive internship program that initially brought her to Dayton and continues its successful run to this day. The program serves as a key pipeline of young professional talent at Premier Health, with many program participants going on to become top leaders at the health system.

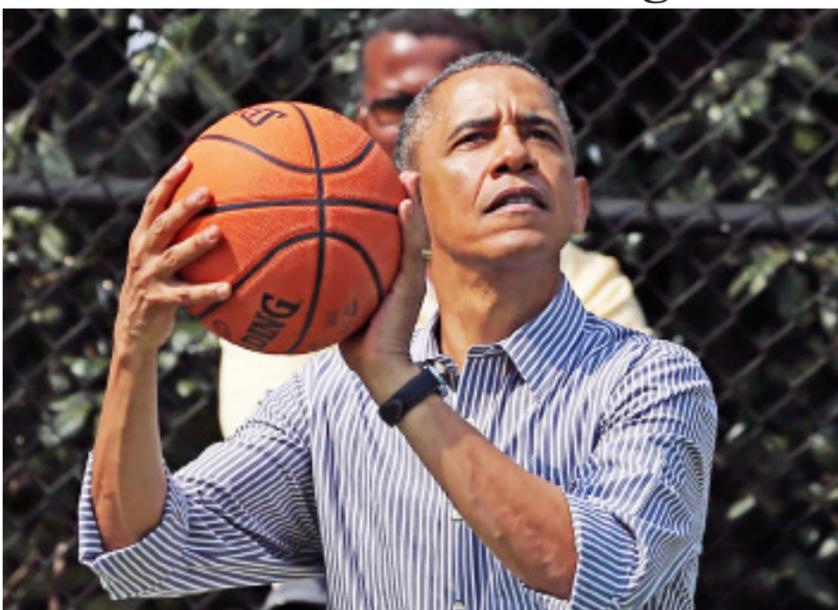
Boosalis also has been a strong advocate for partnerships with like-minded organizations that help Premier Health deliver health care at a value to the community and address public health challenges such as the region's overdose crisis.

Boosalis is a member of the Ohio Hospital Association, Midwest Health Collaborative, and the Greater Dayton Area Hospital Association.

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Sports

NBA, FIBA, and Our Forever President Barack Obama Are Joining Forces to Launch Basketball Africa League



Considering the NBA's global popularity and penchant for staying ahead of the curve, Saturday's announcement that the league is officially expanding outside of North America comes as no surprise.

Here's the scoop, courtesy of ESPN:

The NBA and FIBA jointly announced their plan Saturday afternoon to launch a basketball league featuring 12 club teams across Africa — marking the first time the NBA will be part of the operation of a league outside of North America.

The new league, which will be called the Basketball Africa League, or BAL, will be built upon existing team competitions FIBA is already organizing in Africa. It is scheduled to begin play in January 2020.

In order to determine which teams will be participating in the venture, the NBA and FIBA are jointly planning to conduct qualification tournaments later this year to identify the 12 teams that would represent several countries — including Angola, Egypt, Kenya, Morocco, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa and Tunisia. There will be no more than two teams from any single country in the league.

But the biggest surprise comes the revelation that our forever president Barack Obama, whose affinity for hoops is well-documented, will be involved in the new league—as well as the NBA's continued efforts in Africa—in an unspecified role.

But outside of announcing the inception of the BAL, the NBA in-

roduced two additional measures designed to expand the popularity of basketball on the continent: a revamped direct-to-consumer offering of NBA games by the start of next season and dedicated financial support and resources toward the continued development of the sport on the continent. To include training for players, coaches, referees, and building an infrastructure.

"The Basketball Africa League is an important next step in our continued development of the game of basketball in Africa," NBA Commissioner Adam Silver said in a statement. "Combined with our other programs on the continent, we are committed to using basketball as an economic engine to create new opportunities in sports, media and technology across Africa."

Team LeBron Rallies To Beat Team Giannis, 178-164



Team LeBron's LeBron James, of the Los Angeles Lakers, heads to the hoop against Team Giannis. (AP Photo/Streeter Lecka, Pool)

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — LeBron James was trading lob passes with Dwyane Wade again, one last time. Catching lobbs from former teammate Kyrie Irving once again, too. And after making a stepback 3-pointer late, he stared down Joel Embiid to send a message without saying a word.

Oh, this mattered to James — and Team LeBron as well.

Team LeBron, down by 20 in the second half, finally got firing and went on to beat Team Giannis 178-164 in the All-Star Game on Sunday night. MVP Kevin Durant scored 31 points for Team LeBron, the one that James drafted and led to victory in the captain's-choice format for a second consecutive season.

"You put me on the floor, I love to compete," James said in the post-

game interview room. "I'm a competitor, no matter what it is. I was competing to see if I could get to this table first."

He wasn't kidding. He then turned to NBA spokesman Mark Brousard, asked if he was the first player to get into the room and grinned when told he was.

"See what I'm talking about?" James said.

Klay Thompson scored 20 points, and James and Kawhi Leonard each had 19 for the winners.

"It's all sweet to me," Durant said after getting his second All-Star MVP award, to go with the one he claimed in 2012. "It's hard to rank because everything's special. But it's cool to be out there with some of the best players to ever play the game. And to win MVP in front of my family and friends is pretty sweet."

Giannis Antetokounmpo — the first-time captain — led everybody with 38 points on 17 for 23 shooting for the club he drafted. Paul George and Khris Middleton each scored 20 points for Team Giannis, which got 17 apiece from Stephen Curry and Russell Westbrook.

"Just being the leader of a team, it wasn't as tough as I thought," Antetokounmpo said. "My teammates, the guys in the locker room, encouraged me to step up and take it serious and play hard."

The highlights, as would be expected, were absurdly good, time and again.

Curry slammed the ball off the floor on a first-half fast break and watched it ricochet toward the rim with an apex that flirted with the top of the backboard. Too high for most humans — but Antetokounmpo isn't most humans. The freakishly long Greek star slammed Curry's unconventional alley-oop pass home, with both benches reacting in disbelief.

Curry then slammed an alley-oop on the last play of the game, to himself, for a dunk that closed the scoring in his hometown.

"I thought we put on a great show tonight," said Kemba Walker, Charlotte's lone player in the game.

It was not a defensive showcase, as always.

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L to R: Jeff Mims, Mr. Mahammad, Don Black Host and Dr. William Harris

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Mary Boosalis Named to Modern Healthcare's Top 25 Women Leaders List...

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tion. She currently serves as the chair-elect of the University of Dayton Board of Trustees, and as a member of the Dayton Development Coalition Board, the Dayton Business Committee, the City Manager Advisory Council, and the board of Hub Group, Inc. She is a past member of the Sinclair Community College Board, the Life Connection Board, and is a past chair of the Dayton area's American Heart Association Board. Boosalis has been named to the Top 10 Women list by the Dayton Daily News, and has been recognized as an Ohio Most Powerful and Influential Woman by the Ohio Diversity Council. The Dayton YWCA has recognized her as a Woman of Influence, and she was honored as an inaugural member of the Dayton Business Hall of Fame.

About Premier Health Based in Dayton, Ohio, Premier Health (www.premierhealth.com) has a mission to improve the health of the communities it serves. The health system operates three hospitals: Miami Valley Hospital in Dayton with additional inpatient sites in Centerville and Engle-

wood; Atrium Medical Center in Middletown; and Upper Valley Medical Center in Miami County. In addition, the health system offers a wide range of care choices, including virtual care; e-visits; a telestroke network and other telehealth options; an urgent care network; free-standing emergency departments; a large primary and specialty care network; and home health services. Premier Health is the second largest employer in the region and the largest health care system in Southwest Ohio.

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